



## Message from the Director



**Dennis English**  
**Director**

It is always exciting to have the opportunity to speak at events across our State! Recently, I was fortunate enough to speak at the NC MWBE Coordinators' Network Professional Development Conference in Greensboro where I discussed the Governor's Executive Order #24 and the exciting HUB Office initiatives on the horizon for 2014. I also enjoyed being a guest speaker at the Piedmont Construction and Design Symposium in Winston-Salem where I announced the details of the HUB Office's outreach plans for the State's \$150 million Repair and Renovation Projects. (For more details on the Governor's initiatives and this great opportunity for our entire HUB community, please navigate to our Homepage and click in the box in the upper left corner with the quote from the Governor in it.)

Planning is underway for the 2014 State Construction Conference in March. The HUB Office will present valuable information during two sessions titled: *"Have You Heard? Repair & Renovation Projects are Here!"* and *"Good Faith Efforts Revisited—Are You in Compliance?"*. This year's Networking Reception and Expo, held immediately following the conference, will include a new matchmaking event, which will give HUB firms an opportunity to present their businesses directly to larger majority companies in a 1-on-1 meeting. We are looking forward to great attendance numbers because we all know that building relationships is key to success in business!

At the HUB Office, we continue to rebrand and position ourselves for the next level. I have had the opportunity to establish good working relationships with Capital Project Coordinators in several state agencies including the Departments of Agriculture, Cultural Resources, Public Safety, Environment and Natural Resources, and Transportation. All the CPCs agreed that the HUB Office is positioning itself to create a better linkage for HUB firms and small businesses to have opportunities to do business with the State. One Coordinator commented that "This is the value that the HUB Office should bring."

We were also delighted to announce that HUB firm, Kreative Koncepts, Inc., landed a new business contract with the State for their janitorial services in the Administration Building, where our offices are located!

Sincerely,

*Dennis M. English, MPA.*